



# CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

Guam's First Line of Defense | Protecting Our Island, Our People, and Our Resources

*Director's Office*

*Acting Director of Customs – Eric M. Palacios  
Chief of Customs – Vincent S.N. Perez*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Local, Regional, and Federal Partnerships Enhance Border Enforcement**

BARRIGADA, GUAM – The Customs and Quarantine Agency (CQA) has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS) supporting the CQA's continued involvement in their respective Task Forces (TF).

CQA's involvement with ATF's TF in their fight against the illegal use and trafficking of firearms, the illegal use and storage of explosives, acts of arson and bombings, acts of terrorism, and the illegal diversion of alcohol and tobacco products as well as with the USPIS's TF as they enforce U.S. laws to defend the nation's mail system from illegal or dangerous use and are charged with investigating and prosecuting criminal offenses involving the trafficking of controlled substances and money laundering through the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) directly aligns with CQA's mission, regulatory authority and enforcement powers at Guam's borders.

These partnerships are expressions of renewed commitments to common goals and provide reimbursable expenses of CQA officers assigned to each TF for overtime, travel, training, equipment, and other associated costs.

"CQA will continue to enter into Local, Regional, and Federal Partnerships whose duty and missions parallel our own as our community is the ultimate beneficiary of these partnerships," stated CQA Acting Director Eric M. Palacios. He adds, "the added benefit our Agency receives of monetary relief allows us to better focus on the mission and the wealth of knowledge, intel, and training our officers receive and share upon their return is invaluable."

Other task forces the CQA partners with include, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) TF, the U.S. Homeland Security Investigations' (HSI) TF, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) TF, the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) TF, and the Guam Police Department's (GPD) Mandaña Drug Task Force.

For more information, please contact our Public Information Officer Ms. Jessi Santos-Torres at (671) 475-6202 or email [Jessi.Santos-Torres@cqa.guam.gov](mailto:Jessi.Santos-Torres@cqa.guam.gov).

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